



**Early Steps State Office Public Participation Process
Florida's FFY 2015 Renewal Application for Funds Under
Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**



In order to meet the public participation requirements under §441 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) at 20 USC 1232d(b)(7)(B) and Part C of the IDEA at 34 CFR §303.208, the Early Steps State Office (ESSO), as lead agency for implementation of IDEA, Part C in Florida, is publishing the annual renewal application for funds under IDEA, Part C. In accordance with IDEA, Part C, the application will be available for public review on http://www.floridahealth.gov/AlternateSites/CMS-Kids/home/resources/es_policy/es_Policy.html , for at least 60 days beginning **February 5, 2015 through April 5, 2015**.

The opportunity for public comment on the Part C application is available for 30 days beginning February 25, 2015 through March 26, 2015. Comments will be accepted from the general public, including parents of infants and toddlers with disabilities, providers of services, advocacy groups and organizations and other stakeholders in the state.

The purpose of the public participation period is to gather comments regarding the annual Part C application for funds. The ESSO is interested in information that would assist us in maintaining a statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary, interagency system of early intervention services for infants and toddlers and their families.

Procedures for Submitting Comments on the Application

- A. Comments may be submitted to CMS.EarlyStepsPublicComment@flhealth.gov. The Early Steps State Office must receive your comments no later than March 26, 2015. Note that the Early Steps State Office will not accept comments by phone, fax or e-mail to ESSO staff. To ensure that your comments have the maximum effect in developing the final Part C application, we urge you to identify clearly the specific section or sections of the Part C application that each of your comments addresses. Responses to individual questions will not be provided; however, the ESSO will review and consider all comments and make any modifications deemed necessary.
- B. Any person requesting a hard copy of the application must contact Dawn Lynch at (850)245-4200 or send an e-mail request to CMS.EarlyStepsPublicComment@flhealth.gov no later than February 23, 2015.
- C. Comments may be submitted to the Early Steps State Office via postal mail, commercial/express delivery, or hand delivery. Comments should indicate that they are concerning the Part C application. Address comments to:

Mailing Address:

Renee Jenkins
Florida Department of Health
Children's Medical Services
Early Steps State Office
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A06
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1707

Express Mail/Hand Delivery Address:

Renee Jenkins
Florida Department of Health
Children's Medical Services
Early Steps State Office
2585 Merchants Row Boulevard, Room 220-F
Tallahassee, FL 32311-7829